

**image**  
**PAUL**  
**GRIST**

BRITAIN'S GREATEST HERO!

# JACK STAFF

11

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COMICS PRESENTS

# JACK STAFF

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IT'S 1941 AND THE **WORLD** IS AT **WAR!**

A NEW HERO WALKS THE BATTLEFIELD THAT IS  
EUROPE! A HERO WHO REPRESENTS THE **STRENGTHS**,  
THE **HOPES** AND THE **IDEALS** OF HIS HOMELAND!

A HERO WHO UNITES HIS FELLOW COUNTRYMEN  
BEHIND THE NATIONAL FLAG!



THE MAN WITH  
**INDESTRUCTIBLE  
SKIN!**



IT'S  
1942

AND KAPITAN KRIEG  
LEARNS THAT FLAGS  
ARE ALSO USED TO  
HIDE UGLY TRUTHS.



AH—  
YOU'RE  
AWAKE  
KAPITAN

I'M  
SORRY  
IF MY MEN  
WERE A  
LITTLE  
ROUGH.

STILL.

TOUGH  
SKIN  
HAS ITS  
USES  
EH?

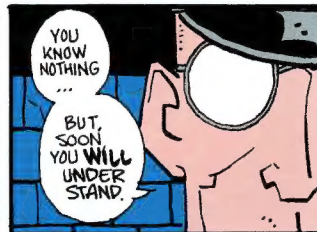
I ALWAYS  
KNEW YOU  
WERE AN  
EVIL MAN  
LIESMANN

BUT I  
THOUGHT  
THIS WAS  
BEYOND  
EVEN  
YOU!



I'VE SEEN WHAT  
YOU HAVE DONE  
... I KNOW  
EVERYTHING.

HOW COULD  
YOU? THEY  
WERE  
PEOPLE, NOT  
ANIMALS



YOU  
KNOW  
NOTHING

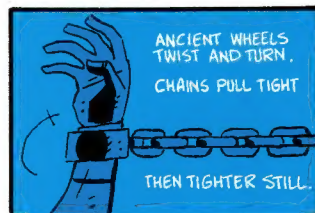
BUT,  
SOON  
YOU WILL  
UNDER  
STAND.

WITH ALL THE  
FEROCITY  
OF A  
WILD  
CAT, KAPITAN  
KRIEG  
LEAPS  
TOWARD  
HIS  
CAPTOR



HE IS  
QUICK,  
BEYOND  
MEASURE.

HERR LIESMANN IS QUICKER.



ANCIENT WHEELS  
TWIST AND TURN.  
CHAINS PULL TIGHT

THEN TIGHTER STILL.



WHY?  
WE'RE  
AT WAR

DOES  
THAT MEAN  
WE HAVE  
TO LOSE OUR  
HUMANITY?



AN  
INTERES-  
TING  
QUESTION

WE  
ALL HAVE  
TO CARRY  
OUR  
DEMONS.

"AND NOW IT'S TIME FOR  
YOU TO MEET YOURS!"

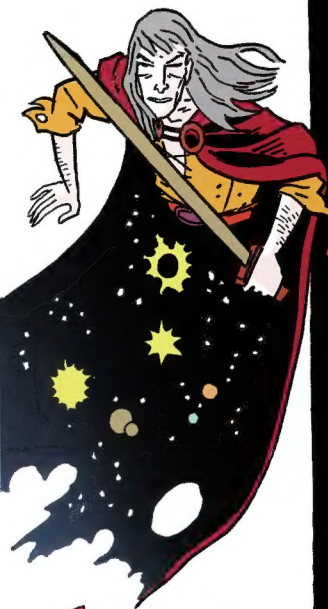


AND THE MAN WITH INDESTRUCTIBLE  
SKIN SCREAMS AS HE FEELS HIS  
FLESH TORN APART.



HE'S THE **COSMIC CHAMPION**  
A WANDERER THROUGH **TIME**  
AND **SPACE**, FOREVER CAUGHT  
IN THE BATTLE BETWEEN  
**ORDER** AND **CHAOS**!

HE CAN ONLY BE BESTED BY  
A MAN OF HONEST INTENT!  
HE'S NEVER MET ONE YET!



# THE ETERNAL WARRIOR

YOU  
DON'T  
GIVE UP  
**EASY**  
DO YOU  
BARBARIAN?

I'M  
AFRAID  
YOU'RE **TOO**  
**LATE!** THE  
KEEPER  
IS DEAD!

THE  
**TWISTED**  
STONE  
IS **MINE!**

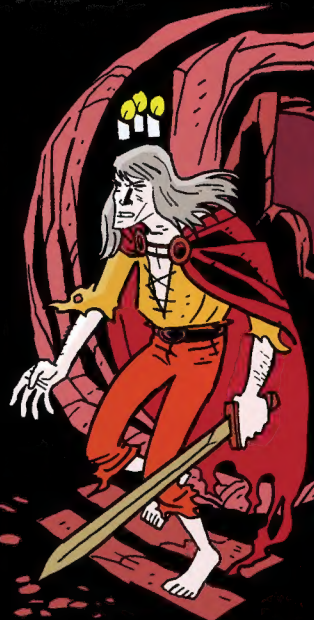


## THE TWISTED STONE

A MYSTERIOUS ROCK, FORMED WHEN THE WORLD WAS  
YOUNG, WITH THE POWER TO MAKE THE VERY THOUGHTS  
OF THE PERSON WHO HOLDS IT BECOME REALITY.

GUARDED BY A GROUP KNOWN AS THE KEEPERS, THE  
STONE HAS NOT BEEN SEEN, LET ALONE HELD, FOR  
MILLENNIA. IT HAS BECOME THE STUFF OF MYTH, OF  
LEGEND.

AND FOR SOME, THE STUFF OF OBSESSION.



**COSMIC CHAMPION.**

EVER WONDERED HOW YOU GET  
TO LAND THAT KIND OF GIG?

YOU PROBABLY THINK YOU GET  
CHOSEN FOR YOUR **NOBILITY**  
OR **PURITY** OF HEART, DON'T YOU?



CALL  
ME  
**GOD.**

WELCOME  
TO MY  
WORLD!



YOU'D BE **WRONG.**



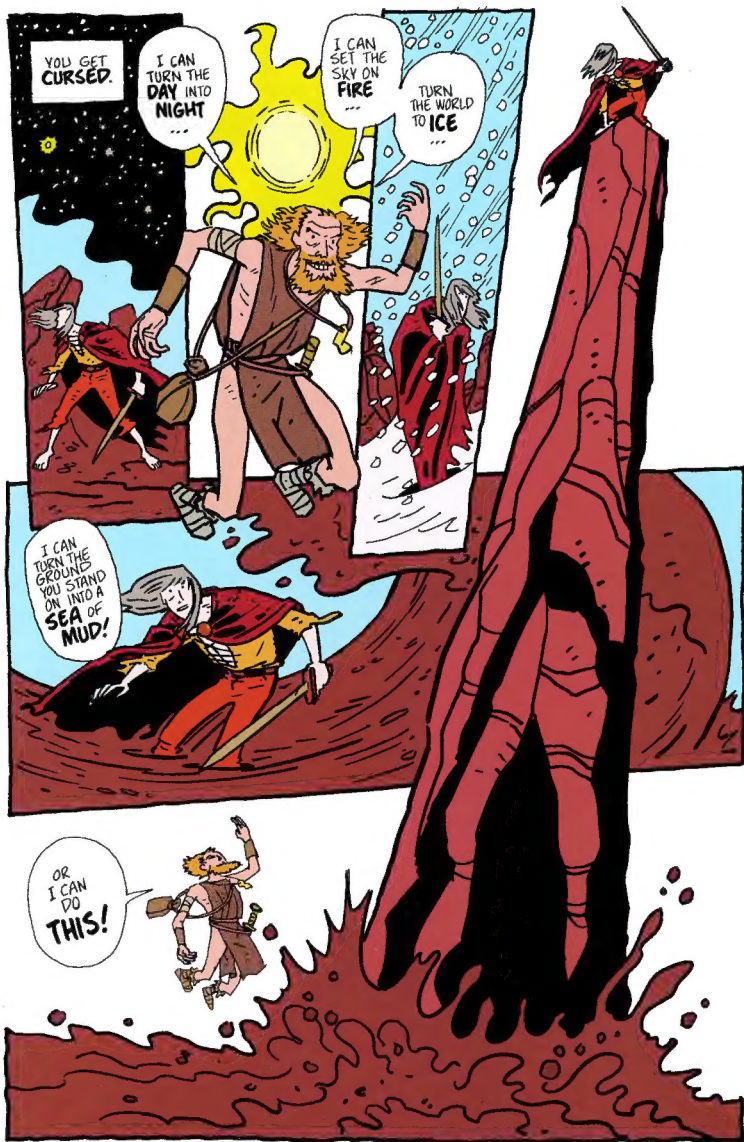
THE THING'S...

MY  
WORLD  
BARBARIAN  
...

YOU DON'T GET  
**CHOSEN...**



MY  
RULES!



YOU GET  
CURSED.

I CAN  
TURN THE  
DAY INTO  
NIGHT  
...

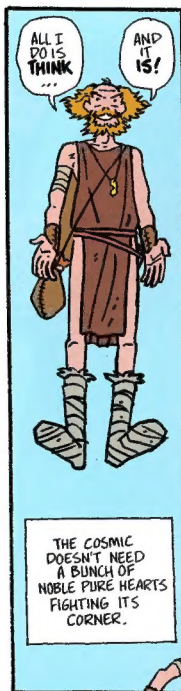
I CAN  
SET THE  
SKY ON  
FIRE  
...

TURN  
THE WORLD  
TO ICE  
...

I CAN  
TURN THE  
GROUND  
YOU STAND  
ON INTO A  
SEA OF  
MUD!

OR  
I CAN  
DO  
THIS!

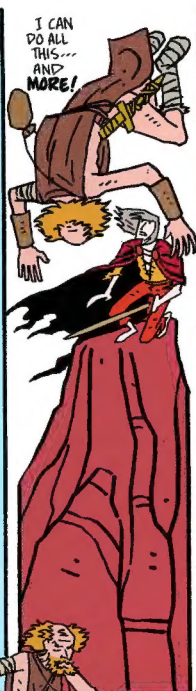




ALL I  
DO IS  
THINK  
...

AND  
IT IS!

THE COSMIC  
DOESN'T NEED  
A BUNCH OF  
NOBLE PURE HEARTS  
FIGHTING ITS  
CORNER.

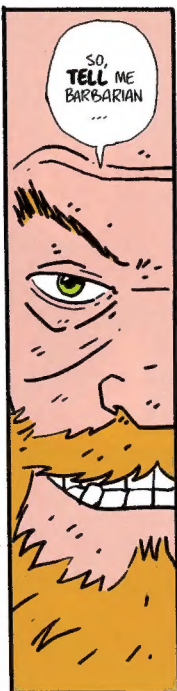


I CAN  
DO ALL  
THIS...  
AND  
MORE!



FOR THE  
POWER  
OF THE  
TWISTED  
STONE  
IS MINE!

IT WANTS A REAL  
MEAN BASTARD.



SO,  
TELL ME  
BARBARIAN  
...



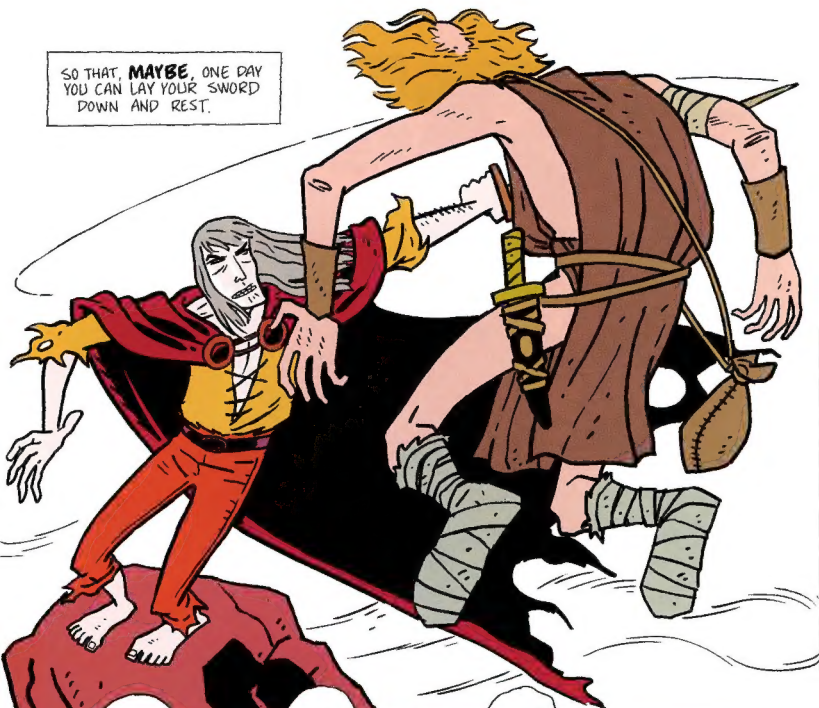
WHAT  
CAN  
YOU  
DO?

YOU HAVE TO HAVE DONE SOMETHING  
SO **BAD** IN YOUR LIFE, SO **EVIL** ...

SOMETHING SO **TOTALLY** DESPICABLE,  
SO **COMPLETELY** IRREDEEMABLE...

THAT YOU HAVE TO SPEND THE REST OF  
ETERNITY FIGHTING TO MAKE AMENDS.

SO THAT, **MAYBE**, ONE DAY  
YOU CAN LAY YOUR SWORD  
DOWN AND REST.



NOT  
EVEN  
**CLOSE.**



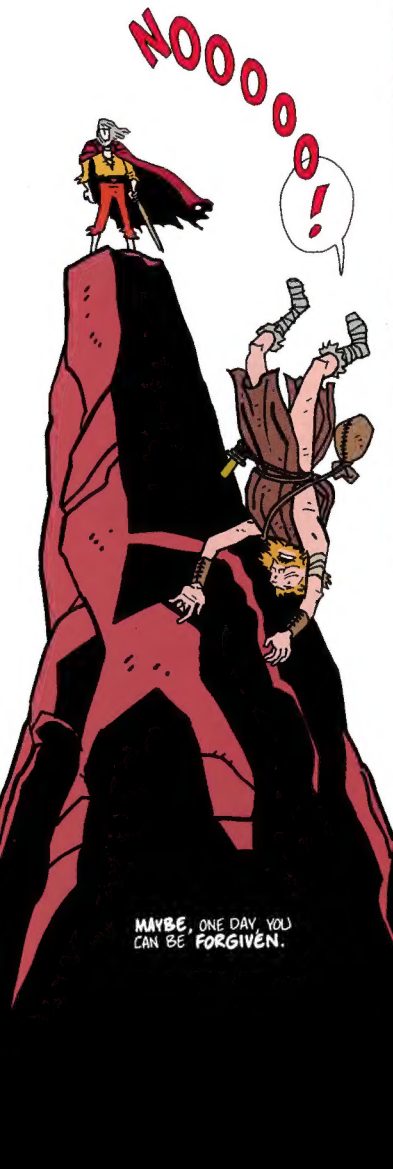
NOW  
IT'S **MY**  
...



turn?





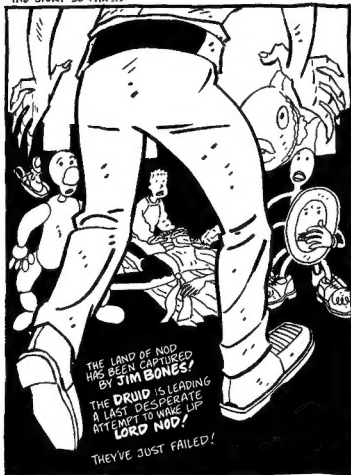


MAYBE, ONE DAY, YOU  
CAN BE FORGIVEN.



BUT ETERNITY IS COLD  
AND UNFORGIVING.  
AND IT GOES ON FOR A  
VERY LONG TIME.

THE STORY SO FAR...



THE LAND OF NOD  
HAS BEEN CAPTURED  
BY **JIM BONES!**  
THE **DRUID** IS LEADING  
A LAST DESPERATE  
ATTEMPT TO WAKE UP  
**LORD NOD!**  
THEY'VE JUST FAILED!

NOW READ ON...



TAKE THE  
BOY-FIND  
**NOD!**

**GO!**

I'LL GIVE  
YOU WHAT  
TIME I  
CAN!

MISTER BALLOONS  
WAS THE FIRST  
TO FALL...



THIS ONE'S FOR  
**HUMPTY!**

**YEE**

**AARGH**

**POP**

**POP**

\*



OH  
DEAR  
...

HE  
DIDN'T  
LAST VERY  
LONG,  
DID HE?

NEVER  
MIND...  
MORE  
**FUN AND  
GAMES**  
FOR THE  
REST OF  
US, eh?

GOLDIE DIDN'T  
LAST MUCH  
LONGER.

turn  
away  
boy  
...

WHO'S  
THAT?

WE  
MUST  
HURRY  
...

IT'S  
THE  
**DROIP**

BUT I  
THOUGHT  
YOU WERE  
ASLEEP  
...

MY  
PHYSICAL  
FORM,  
yes...

but  
before  
JIM BONES  
overcame  
me, I was  
able to  
release a  
SHADE  
...







SO WHAT  
DO I DO  
NOW  
MISTA  
DRUID?

MISTA  
DRUID?











LOOKS  
LIKE  
YOU  
DID  
IT  
KID!

DISH!  
MISTA  
BLOONS!

YOU'RE  
ALL  
ALRIGHT  
AGAIN!

YAY!

GOLDIE?

MISTA  
DRUID

YOU'RE  
ALL  
BIG  
AGAIN

YOU  
HAVE  
DONE  
WELL  
CHILD

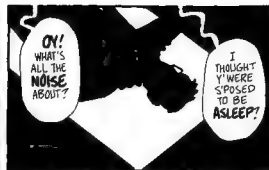
THANKS  
TO  
YOUR  
BRAVERY  
THE  
WORLD  
CAN  
SLEEP  
SOUNDLY  
TONIGHT.

FROM  
THIS  
DAY  
ON,  
YOU  
WILL  
BE  
KNOWN  
AS  
**ZIPPER**  
IN  
MEMORY  
OF  
YOUR  
COURAGE  
TODAY.

SO  
FARE  
WELL  
YOUNG  
ZIPPER!

AND  
REMEM-  
BER

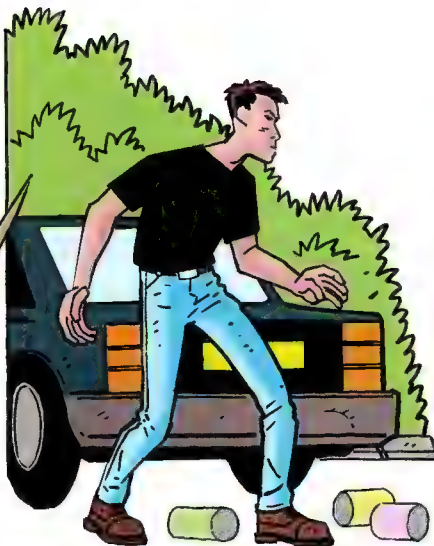
YOU  
HAVE  
A  
FRIEND  
IN  
THE  
DRUID!



# THE ETERNAL WARRIOR



HE'S THE COSMIC CHAMPION!



HE'S BRITAIN'S GREATEST HERO!



YOU, OR RATHER **JACK STAFF**,  
ARE ABOUT TO FACE YOUR  
MOST POWERFUL FOE IN  
**FINAL BATTLE.**  
IT WILL BE **UGLY,**  
**BLOODY** AND **BRUTAL.**

AND IN  
THE END,  
YOU LOSE.



# JACK STAFF



TO BE HONEST, MY MONEY'S ON THE  
BIG GUY WITH THE SWORD.



YOU DON'T MESS  
WITH THE BIG GUY  
WITH THE SWORD.



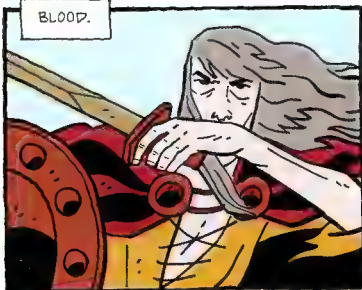
UNLESS YOU'RE  
AN IDIOT...



... OR YOU'VE GOT  
NOTHING ELSE  
LEFT TO LOSE.



BLOOD.



HE IS A BRAVE  
ONE, THIS MAN.

A WARRIOR.



HE DOES NOT RUN  
FROM BATTLE LIKE  
SO MANY OTHERS.

NOT MANY ARE ABLE  
TO STAND THEIR GROUND  
AGAINST A COSMIC  
CHAMPION.

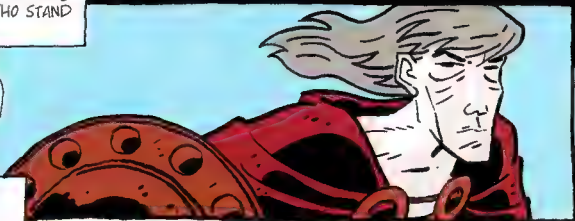
THOSE WHO DO, HE HOLDS  
IN HIGH REGARD.



HE HAS A SPECIAL NAME  
FOR THE FEW WHO STAND  
AGAINST HIM.

ungh...

THEY ARE THE  
FALLEN.



THIS ONE WILL NEED  
A NEW NAME ALL  
HIS OWN...







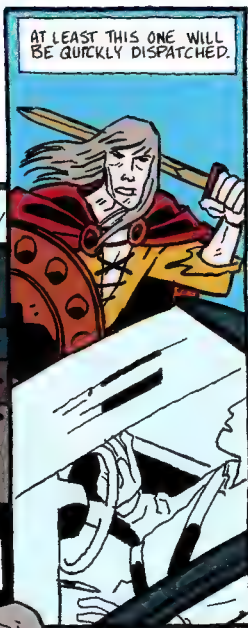


HONK!



WHAT'S THIS?

ANOTHER CHALLENGE?



AT LEAST THIS ONE WILL  
BE QUICKLY DISPATCHED.



AGAIN ?



HOW MUCH  
LONGER  
MUST THIS  
GO ON FOR?

THIS IS NOT WHY  
HE WAS BROUGHT  
HERE...

TO THIS TIME.

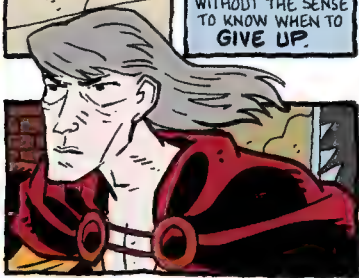
TO THIS PLACE.



THE COSMIC BROUGHT  
HIM HERE FOR A  
REASON ... A  
PURPOSE ...



NOT FOR HIM TO  
BE CAUGHT UP IN  
A STREET BRAWL  
WITH SOMEONE  
WITHOUT THE SENSE  
TO KNOW WHEN TO  
GIVE UP.



NO!  
HOW MANY MORE  
TIMES WILL THIS  
MAN COME BACK?

HE IS THE COSMIC CHAMPION!

THE ETERNAL WARRIOR!



A WANDERER THROUGH **TIME**  
AND **SPACE**, FOREVER CAUGHT  
IN THE BATTLE BETWEEN  
**ORDER** AND **CHAOS**!

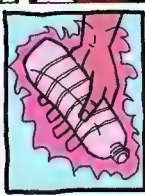
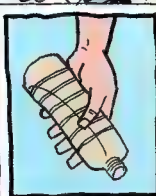
HE CAN ONLY BE BESTED BY  
A MAN OF HONEST INTENT!



HE'S NEVER  
MET ONE YET!



AND **THIS**...



THIS IS WHERE IT ENDS.



WELL, THAT WAS... DIFFERENT ...

NOT QUITE WHAT I EXPECTED ...

BUT Y'KNOW, ALL PART OF THE TAPESTRY.

OKAY MORLAN ...

WHO IS THIS GUY?

I DUNNO.

HE LOOKS LIKE HE COULD BE A CHARACTER CALLED THE ETERNAL WARRIOR.

HE'S SOME KIND OF COSMIC CHAMPION.

TURNS UP AT THE **BLACKEST** MOMENTS OF HISTORY TO SAVE THE DAY. THAT KIND OF THING.

COSMIC CHAMPION STUFF.

SO WHY'S HE ATTACKING ME THEN?

oh- I THINK THAT'S A LITTLE UNFAIR

AFTER ALL ...







WRITE TO  
STAFF POST  
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HIGHBRIDGE TA9 4WD

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paulgrist1960@hotmail.co.uk

## NEXT ISSUE:



Cover to cover action as  
Jack Staff battles Kapitan  
Krieg. And loses.

Recommended reading? At the moment I'm working my way through the Judge Dredd Case Files, which is a chronological collection of the Judge Dredd stories from 2000 AD (long running British weekly comic). Basically it's the 2000 AD version of Marvels Essential books, and they're great. Six page bursts of brilliance from a time before the Thrill Suckers finally got Tharg.

# FLAG WAVING

I wasn't going to mention this, but following the recent death of Tom Frame, who was one of the original lettering droids on Dredd, I just thought I'd take the excuse to talk about lettering for a while. Yeah, I know, but let's face it if you had anything better to do you probably wouldn't be reading this anyway.

See, lettering is the overlooked art of the comicbook world. In fact it's probably the lost art of the comicbook world since it seems to be first aspect of comics to be totally taken over by computers. Who needs to hand letter a comic when you can get software to do it for you? Don't get me wrong, I'm not having a go at computer lettering - it's better than bad lettering! But there's a lot more to lettering than a means of allowing the reader to read the words.

There is so much more that you can do with lettering than most comics seem to try, which I think is a shame. At its best it should be more than just a functional way of allowing the reader to hear the words the characters are speaking. It can have just as much impact as the words and pictures.

Comics are a visual way of telling a story, of communicating an idea. As such every element that appears on the page is important visually, and captions and word balloons are very important in the way they move your eye around the page, even before you read the words. To get back to Tom Frame, he had a really individual style of lettering and, as such, was responsible for defining the visual style of Judge Dredd as much as Brian Bolland or Mike McMahon were. Back when I did my one and only Dredd strip, I was so pleased when I saw the printed pages and saw that it had been lettered by Tom Frame. It made it look like a real Dredd story!

Changing the subject, is it just me, or has anyone else noticed that the inside of the Tardis in Doctor Who now bears a striking resemblance to the inside of the Teletubbies house? And has anyone else seen Sommerton Mill? It's like Trumpton written by Samuel Beckett. Maybe I'm watching too many children's programmes at six in the morning!

The letters page and Beats Cards will return in issue 13!

# Rants, Raves and Ringtones.



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A dynamic manga-style illustration depicting a fierce battle. On the left, a tiger with a brown and black striped coat is shown in a pouncing or roaring pose, its mouth open showing sharp teeth. On the right, a man with dark, spiky hair and a determined, slightly pained expression is shown. He is wearing a red jacket or shirt. The background is filled with large, jagged yellow lightning bolts and a large red 'X' shape, suggesting a high-impact collision or a dramatic moment. The overall style is characterized by bold lines, heavy shading, and a high-contrast color palette.

**A TWIT AND FOOL SCAN...**

**DON'T**  
**LET THIS HAPPEN TO YOU**